

CPYRGHT

CPYRGHT

# The Washington Post

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER ... SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1960 PAGE A10

## Issues in the Tenth

Northern Virginia voters will be called upon to make some simple choices as well as some more involved decisions at the polls on Tuesday. The simple choices are on statewide questions and on local bond issues which merit support. The more intricate decisions lie in the selection of a Congressman and in the contest for one of the seats on the Arlington County Board.

At the state level Democratic Sen. A. Willis Robertson is virtually certain of reelection to Congress, since he has no major party opponent. Mr. Robertson often has supported the position of Senator Byrd but has shown independence on some issues, as in his endorsement of the national Democratic ticket. Two other statewide issues deserve voter approval: the constitutional amendment to exempt members of the armed forces from the poll tax and to permit out-of-state registration; and the amendment to permit two or more localities to streamline their governments by jointly electing a single officer such as a sheriff or commissioner of revenue.

Two bond issues totaling \$2,847,000 would finance additions to the Arlington water and sanitary sewer systems. These would be secured by revenues and would involve no tax increase; they are required for expansion and there ought to be no controversy about them. Bond issues in Falls Church totaling \$1,200,000 would pay for highly necessary additional junior high school classrooms, a school library addition and street and storm drainage projects. These general obligation bonds would require an increase in the tax rate estimated at 16 cents; but, there is no alternative to approval if Falls Church is to meet the demands of city status and population growth.

The contest for the Tenth District congressional seat is between incumbent Republican Rep. Joel T. Broyhill and Democrat Ralph R. Kaul. It is a contest, as this newspaper has noted, between a liberal Democrat who supports Senator Kennedy and the national platform, and a conservative Republican whose party designation is blurred by his coziness with the Byrd machine.

In Arlington one of the candidates for the County Board, Ernest D. Wilt, is unopposed. Mr. Wilt, now serving by appointment, is an independent of fair and progressive performance who has enlisted the support of all factions in the County. The fight is for the other seat now held by Dr. Lucas H. Blevins, a dentist, whose reelection bid is opposed by Thomas W. Richards, an intelligence analyst.

The confusion arises because Dr. Blevins carries the Democratic label whereas Mr. Richards has the endorsement of the nonpartisan Arlingtonians for a Better County which now controls a majority on the Board. In actuality Dr. Blevins is the holdover representative of the old conservative Arlington Independent Movement. Mr. Richards has made him look foolish during the campaign by noting the contradictions between his political charges and the positions he supported on the Board. Dr. Blevins has shown better qualifications for dentistry than for political office. Mr. Richards, by contrast, has demonstrated extraordinary command of planning, zoning and fiscal problems and would be in a position to exercise an enlightened influence in the conduct of public business in Arlington.